

## Message Text

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64

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00

DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 /054 W

----- 076835

R 301300Z JUL 76

FM AMCONSUL THESSALONIKI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2629

INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY ANKARA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, PGOV, PFOR, GR, TU

SUBJECT: DEFENSE MINISTER ADDRESSES HIGHER WAR COLLEGE

1. GREEK MINISTER OF DEFENSE AVEROF IN ADDRESS TO GRADUATING CLASS OF ARMY HIGHER WAR COLLEGE IN THESSALONIKI JULY 29 GAVE FAIRLY STANDARD GRADUATION SPEECH ON DUTY, HONOR, COUNTRY. THERE WAS NO REFERENCE TO TURKEY, HOWEVER, HE DID SAY THAT GREECE IS IN A PERIOD OF TENSION WHICH WILL CONTINUE BUT THAT THE COUNTRY DOES NOT HAVE A MAJOR CRISIS. "IT WOULD BE NAIVE FOR ANYONE TO SAY THAT WE DON'T LIVE IN A PERIOD OF TENSION OR THAT THIS PERIOD WILL PASS EITHER IN A FEW DAYS OR FEW WEEKS," HE SAID. "UNITY, COMPETENCE AND A PREPARED ARMY ARE WHAT WE NEED DURING THESE TENSE MOMENTS," HE STRESSED TO GRADUATES.

2. THE REST OF THE SPEECH WAS DEVOTED TO INTERNAL POLITICS AND THE NEED FOR ARMY LOYALTY. HE EXPRESSED THE GOVERNMENT'S COMMITMENT TO DEMOCRACY AND ITS DISDAIN FOR SMALL VOCAL MINORITIES WHO FOLLOW SUCH "NONSENSICAL IDEOLOGIES THAT NO ONE IS ABLE TO UNDERSTAND WHAT THEY BELIEVE OR WHAT THEY WISH TO ESTABLISH." IN OBVIOUS REFERENCE TO COMMUNISTS, ONE MINORITY HE EXPRESSED SLIGHT CONCERN ABOUT WAS THAT WHICH WITH "ENTIRELY DIFFERENT THEORIES

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OF LIFE THAN OURS AND WHICH IN THEORY FORESEES AN

UNOBTAINABLE COMMUNITY OF ANGELS WHICH WILL RESULT IN  
PRACTICE IN A COMMUNITY OF PUPPETS".

3. HE CLOSED BY URGING OFFICERS NOT TO RECOGNIZE EITHER  
JUNTA OR OTHER EXTREMIST ELEMENTS. HE SAID THAT FROM NOW  
ON OFFICERS WOULD BE JUDGED BY PERFORMANCE, IMPLYING  
THAT , IF PERFORMANCE WERE SATISFACTORY AND POLITICAL  
EXTREMES AVOIDED, THEN PAST POLITICAL EXCESSES WOULD BE  
FORGOTTEN.  
NEGROPONTE

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## Message Attributes

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**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PFOR  
**Control Number:** n/a  
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**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** coburnhl  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
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**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
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**Disposition History:** n/a  
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**From:** THESSALONIKI  
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